

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING**

SUBJECT: Cigarette lighter standards

DATE OF MEETING: March 5, 2003

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Dennis B. Wilson, Senior Legal Counsel, Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: March 7, 2003

LOCATION: Commissioner Gall's office, CPSC Headquarters, Bethesda, Maryland

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall, Dennis B. Wilson, Senior Legal Counsel, Barbara Parisi, Legal Counsel

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): David Baker, Thompson, Hine, Counsel for the Lighter Association; Thomas Kelleher, Senior Vice President-Administration, General Counsel and Secretary, Bic Corporation; Sean Oberle, Editor, Product Safety Letter

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Messrs Baker and Kelleher expressed concern about continuing injuries associated with lighters that do not conform to the ASTM voluntary standard. They said that no causal link between non-conformance to the voluntary standard and injuries need be established for the Commission to promulgate a mandatory standard. Commissioner Gall asked about testing of lighters in China and Mr. Kelleher characterized it as sporadic and not very

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X No Mfrs/PrvtLbtrs or
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reliable. In response to a further question from Commissioner Gall, Messrs Baker and Kelleher stated that lighters frequently do not conform with more than one aspect of the voluntary standard, and that they might consider mandatory rulemaking that included some, but not all aspects of the voluntary standard. Mr. Kelleher noted that because of the difficulty of finding the manufacturer when there are injuries involving lighters, Bic, because it is so well known, is often named as a defendant in cases in which it did not manufacture the lighter in question. Mr. Wilson noted that the numbers of injuries associated with lighters appear somewhat low in light of the numbers sold--about one ten-thousandth of one percent. In response to a question from Commissioner Gall, Mr. Baker said that the Lighter Association does not have a breakdown in the numbers of children and number of adults injured by lighters.